

Climate Change in the News!

It's Real and We Need to Act!

Dear Colleagues:

The scientific community around the world, which includes our own federal scientists, has reached the consensus that greenhouse gas-induced climate change is a scary reality. As a result, it is abundantly clear that the United States must act now to avert economic, agricultural, ecological and human health crises in our own country.

Fortunately, feasible approaches to reducing carbon dioxide emissions are no longer scary. Late last year, a bipartisan group of top energy experts from industry, government, labor, academia, and environmental and consumer groups -- [the National Commission on Energy Policy](#) -- developed a set of sensible policy recommendations for addressing oil security, climate change, natural gas supply, and other long-term energy supply challenges.

Their recommendations, which have been endorsed by major U.S. businesses and labor groups, would slow the growth of greenhouse gases but minimize the negative impacts to the U.S. economy. On the contrary, they would spur innovation in emissions-reducing technology at home, keeping America competitive globally and providing new, good jobs in state-of-the-art industries.

I urge you to come to your own informed conclusions on this most important of issues. In doing so, please remember that we can make America stronger by beginning to address this very serious problem now. We must work together to ensure that the United States does not fall behind the rest of the world in addressing climate change.

Attached are three articles published today in some of our Nation's most-respected newspapers as well as the peer-reviewed article published June 3rd by scientists from NASA and the DOE's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in the world's leading scientific journal. I hope you find them informative.

We must move forward to address the growing dangers to our economy and our Nation's health by the growing inevitability of climate change. Fortunately, solid, economically positive solutions exist. Please contact me or Johanna Polsenberg of my staff at 5-6190 for additional information.

Sincerely,

Tom Udall
Member of Congress

New York Times

Bush Aide Softened Greenhouse Gas Links to Global Warming

By ANDREW C. REVKIN

WASHINGTON A White House official repeatedly edited climate reports in ways that play down links between emissions and global warming.

Los Angeles Times

Science organizations from 11 countries, including the U.S., call for global action against the changing climate.

By Miguel Bustillo

The National Academy of Sciences and 10 similar organizations from some of the world's most powerful nations released a statement Tuesday calling for a stronger international response to global warming, arguing there is now more than enough evidence of a changing climate to justify taking immediate action.

Washington Post

Blair Calls for U.S. Action on Climate

By ED JOHNSON

LONDON -- Prime Minister Tony Blair said Wednesday he was hopeful of a deal on tackling climate change and lifting Africa out of poverty following talks in Washington on his G8 priorities.

Science

Earth's energy imbalance: Confirmation and implications.

Hansen et al. (2005)

Abstract (excerpted): Our climate model, driven mainly by increasing human-made greenhouse gases and aerosols, calculates that Earth is now absorbing more energy from the Sun than it is emitting to space. This imbalance is confirmed by precise measurements of increasing ocean heat content over the past 10 years. Implications include: (i) expectation of additional global warming of about 0.6°C without further change of atmospheric composition; (ii) confirmation of the climate system's lag in responding to forcings, implying the need for anticipatory actions to avoid any specified level of climate change; and (iii) likelihood of acceleration of ice sheet disintegration and sea level rise.